(c) by when the STD facilities are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Nagarjunasagar is served by Hilly colony small capacity automatic exchange. There is no proposal at present to privde STD facility from this exchange.

Power Shortage

*379. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY: be pleased to state:

(a) whether power shortage is adversely affecting the industrial output in various sectors; and

(b) if so, what action is being taken by Government to ensure uninterrupted power supply to Industry etc. and avoid large scale load-shedding?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Industrial output depends on a number of factors and power shortage is one of the factors affecting industrial output.

(b) The supply of power to various categories of consumers is decided by the State authorities keeping in view the overall demand for power and its availability. The States have been advised to give priority in supply of power to agriculture and to core sector industries.

The measures being taken to improve the availability of power include expediting commissioning of new capacity, implementation of short gestation projects, improving the performance of existing power stations, reducing transmission and distribution losses, implementation of demand managemnet and energy conservation measures and arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas.

Research centre for energy management

*380. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Research Centre for energy management;

(b) if so, what would be the main objectives of this Research Centre; and

(c) by when it is likely to be set up and where would it be located?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) Government propose to set up an Energy Management Centre with the main objective of strengthening and promoting conservation of energy in the country. The Centre is proposed to be set up at Nagpur during 1988-89.

Variation in installation costs of different thermal plants

2607. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the estimated cost of NTPC's 2000 MW Singrauli plant would be Rs. 1120 crore and that of 1260 MW Vindhyachal plant about Rs. 1340 crore; but for the 1000 MW Rihand Plant the cost would be Rs. 1600 crore; and

(b) what are the names of the agents/middlemen if any, in each of the 3 cases for various items and jobs and the estimated amounts being given to them by the suppliers and purchasers as service charges/commission?